Report Date: 01 Feb 2013

Summary Report for Individual Task
071-440-0027
Execute Mechanical Breach in an Urban Operation
Status: Approved

Condition: As a member of an assault element in urban terrain, with the location and strength of the enemy uncertain, given an individual weapon with ammunition and load-bearing equipment, and special tools such as wedges, prying tools, striking tools, and cutting tools. You have been directed to conduct a mechanical breach. Some iterations of this task should be performed in MOPP.

Standard: Inspect the different types of tools, identify the desired entry point, perform the mechanical breach, signal that the breach point has been cleared, secure the breach point and maintain the breach point until the mission is complete or relieved by follow-on forces.

Special Condition: None

Special Standards: None

Special Equipment:

Safety Level: Low

MOPP: Sometimes

Task Statements

Cue: None

DANGER

None

WARNING

None

CAUTION

None

Remarks: None

Notes: Mechanical breaching does not require much training or preparation but is often not as efficient and effective as the other methods.

Performance Steps

1. Inspect the different types of tools.

a. Check prying tools, such as hooligan tool, crowbars and pry bars.

Note: Hand prying tools use leverage to provide a mechanical advantage. These tools are very effective in breaking locks, opening doors, and forcing windows.

b. Check striking tools such as battering rams, sledgehammers, hammers and picks.

WARNING

Using the wrong cutting tool for the material type can cause injury. For example, trying to cut through wood and hitting metal with a chainsaw. The tool could be damaged but, worse yet, the operator could be harmed.

c. Check manual or powered cutting tools.

Note: This is the most diverse tool group. Most cutting tools are highly specialized in terms of the types of materials they are designed to cut.

2. Identify the desired entry point.

a. Locate door to be breached.

(1) Determine if door is swinging, revolving, sliding or overhead.

(2) Select proper tool to use.

b. Locate an outside window.

(1) Determine if window can be accessed with a tool or if it can be broke.

(2) Identify if the window has bars, heavy wire mesh or regular glass.

(3) Be prepared to break glass.

c. Check if entry can be accessed by the floor.

(1) Determine if floor is wood or concrete.

(2) Determine if cutting tool can be used effectively on floor without compromising the breach.

d. Identify the structure of the wall.

(1) Masonery or brick wall.

(2) Wood frame.

e. Locate entry point on roof.

3. Perform the mechanical breach.

a. Check door for booby trap.

b. Check to see if the door is unlocked before using force.

c. Breach a swinging door.

(1) Breach a door that opens outward.

(a) Insert the blade of the prying tool between the door and the doorjamb near the lock.

(b) Force the blade in and against the rabbet or door (the center frame of the doorway) stop.

(c) Pry the tool bar away from the door to force the door and doorjamb apart.

(d) Pry the door away from jamb until the bolt passes the keeper.

(2) Breach a door that opens inward.

(a) Bump the cutting edge of the tool against the rabbet or doorstop to break the varnish or paint so that the blade can be inserted.

(b) Loosen the stop or remove it completely.

(c) Start the blade between the door and the doorjamb.

(d) Pry only after the blade is halfway in to permit the blade to be worked and pushed.

(e) Pull or pry the door open with another tool once the lock clears the keeper.

d. Breach a revolving door.

Note: Revolving doors consist of wings that revolve around a central shaft. The revolving wings turn within a metal or glass housing. The mechanism of the revolving door is usually collapsible and panic proof, and each of the four revolving wings is held in plae when the hangers are collapsed. Some revolving doors will collapse automatically when forces are exerted in opposite directions on any two wings. Revolving doors can be locked in various ways and, in general, are difficult to force when locked.

(1) Breach a panic proof swing door.

Note: The panic proof swing door has a collapsible mechanism has a 1/4-inch cable holding the wings apart.

(a) Push or press the mechanism or wing in opposite direction.

(b) Remove the door from the shaft.

(2) Breach a drop-arm swing door.

Note: The drop arm mechanism has a solid arm passing through one of the doors. The arm passes through a pawl on the door.

(a) Press the pawl to disengage it from the arm.

(b) Push the wing to one side.

(c) Move door out of way.

(3) Breach metal-braced swing doors.

Note: Metal braced mechanism is held in position by arms that resemble a gate hook with an eye.

(a) Lift the hook.

(b) Fasten it back against the fixed door or wing to collapse the mechanism.

(c) Break pivots by forcing the door with a bar.

Note: Pivots are, in most cases, cast iron.

e. Breach sliding doors.

Note: Sliding doors are generally doors that can travel either right or left of their opening and on the same plane. Sliding doors are usually supported on metal tracks, and their sideward movement is made easier by small rollers or guide wheels.

(1) Breach same as swing doors.

(2) Pry sliding door straight back from lock is the only difference from swing doors.

f. Breach overhead doors.

Note: There are three types of overhead doors which may be constructed of metal, fiberglass, or wood.

(1) Breach a slab door.

Note: Pivoting or overhead slab doors are locked much like sectional or folding doors. Sometimes you cannot pry outward with a bar on each side, at the bottom of the door. This will tend to bend the bar enough to pass the keeper.

(2) Breach a rolling steel door.

Note: Rolling steel doors are the toughest doors to force and usually can only be breached by cutting through the door using power tools. This type of door is best opened using explosive breaching techniques.

(3) Breach a sectional or folding door.

Note: From a forcible entry point of view the sectional or folding door does not present a serious problem unless it is motor driven or remotely controlled.

g. Sectional or folding doors.

(1) Pry upward at the bottom of the door with a prying tool.

(2) Knock out a panel on the door and turn latch from the inside.

h. Perform breach of a window.

Note: Windows seem to present easy access. Glass windows are usually easily broken. Soldiers are slowed by the size and height of windows.

(1) Check window for booby traps.

(2) Breach a barred window.

Note: Barred windows have bars permanently secured in the masonry above and below the window.

(a) Strike the bars 10 inches above the window sill.

(b) Pull the end of the bar if it frees from the window sill.

(c) Strike the window sill with a sledgehammer at the opposite end of the bar.

Note: A blow at this point will sometimes release the end of the bar.

(d) Use a hammer-headed pick in the masonry sill at the edge of the bar.

(e) Strike the hammer end of the pick with a sledgehammer to crack the masonry enough for it to release the end of the bar.

(3) Breach heavy wire mesh.

Note: Heavy wire mesh guards are often used over windows and doors. These mesh guards may be permanently installed. Regardless of how they are installed, forcing wire mesh guards involves considerable time and should be avoided.

(4) Breaking glass windows.

(a) Stand on the upwind side of the window so the small slivers are not blown back on you.

(b) Avoid standing directly in front of the window.

(c) Use the wall for cover from observation or fire.

(d) Strike the pane at the top, breaking the window.

(e) Break out the remaining frame, which enlarges the opening, permitting quick entry.

(f) Rake the remaining glass from the windowsill.

i. Breach from the floor.

Note: Most floors are built either on a wood or concrete foundation or subfloor. Large buildings, such as commercial multistory structures, usually have concrete subfloors. Multistory family dwellings usually have wooden subfloors.

(1) Breach a concrete floor.

Note: Concrete floors are extremely hard to breach.

(a) Use a power jackhammer.

(b) Use a power saw fitted with a concrete cutting blade.

(2) Breach a wooden floor.

(a) Determine the location to be breached.

(b) Cut away the floor finish.

(c) Remove floor finish and debris from breach site.

(d) Expose the subfloor.

(e) Cut away the subfloor.

j. Breach the walls.

Note: The method of breaching a wall will largely depend on the type of material used to construct the wall.

(1) Breach a masonry wall.

Note: A masonry wall is the toughest type to breach.

(a) Use a battering ram.

Note: The battering ram requires a minimum of two Soldiers to operate.

(b) Repeat striking the wall untill the breach is large enough to enter.

(2) Breach wood frame walls.

Note: Wood frame walls are constructed with wood or fiberboard sheathing over wooden studs. The exterior siding, which may be wood clapboard, board and siding, asbestos shingles, stucco, or other exterior finish, is fastened over the sheathing.

(a) Determine location for breach.

(b) Cut away exterior wall.

(c) Expose interior wall.

(d) Cut interior wall for entry.

k. Breach roofs and ceilings.

Note: Because roofs and ceilings are constructed about the same as floors, the procedures for breaching are the same.

4. Signal that the breach (entry) point has been cleared.

5. Secure the breach (entry) point.

6. Maintain the breach (entry) point.

(Asterisks indicates a leader performance step.)

Evaluation Preparation: Set up: Provide the Soldier with the equipment and/or materials described in the conditions statement. Brief the Soldier: Tell the Soldier what is expected of him by reviewing the task standards. Stress to the Soldier the importance of observing all cautions, warnings, and dangers to avoid injury to personnel and, if applicable, damage to equipment.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES	GO	NO-GO	N/A
1. Inspected the different types of tools.			
2. Identified the desired entry point.			
3. Performed the mechanical breach.			
4. Signaled that the breach (entry) point has been cleared.			
5. Secured the breach (entry) point.			
6. Maintained the breach (entry) point.			

Supporting Reference(s):

Step Number	Reference ID	Reference Name	Required	Primary
	ATTP 3-06.11	Combined Arms Operations in Urban Terrain	No	Yes
	ATTP 3-21.71	Mechanized Infantry Platoon and Squad	No	Yes
	FM 3-21.8	THE INFANTRY RIFLE PLATOON AND SQUAD	No	Yes

Environment: Environmental protection is not just the law but the right thing to do. It is a continual process and starts with deliberate planning. Units will assess environmental risk using the checklist and assessment matrixes in TC 3-34.489 and FM 3-34.5. Always be alert to ways to protect our environment during training and missions. In doing so, you will contribute to the sustainment of our training resources while protecting people and the environment from harmful effects.

Safety: In a training environment, leaders must perform a risk assessment in accordance with FM 5-19, Composite Risk Management. Leaders will complete a DA Form 7566 COMPOSITE RISK MANAGEMENT WORKSHEET during the planning and completion of each task and sub-task by assessing mission, enemy, terrain and weather, troops and support available-time available and civil considerations, (METT-TC). Note: During MOPP training, leaders must ensure personnel are monitored for potential heat injury. Local policies and procedures must be followed during times of increased heat category in order to avoid heat related injury. Consider the MOPP work/rest cycles and water replacement guidelines IAW FM 3-11.4, NBC Protection, FM 3-11.5, CBRN Decontamination.

Prerequisite Individual Tasks : None

Supporting Individual Tasks :

Task Number	Title	Proponent	Status
071-326-0541	(ARCHIVE-28-JAN-2013-JHA) Superseded (Use Task 071-COM-0541) Perform Exterior Movement Techniques During an Urban Operation	071 - Infantry (Individual)	Superseded
071-326-0503	(ARCHIVE-28-JAN-2013-JHA) Superseded (Use Task 071-COM-0503) Move Over, Through, or Around Obstacles (Except Minefields)	071 - Infantry (Individual)	Superseded

Supported Individual Tasks :

Task Number	Title	Proponent	Status
071-100-0030	(ARCHIVE-28-JAN-2013-JHA) Superseded (Use Task 071-COM-0030) Engage Targets with an M16-Series Rifle/M4-Series Carbine	071 - Infantry (Individual)	Superseded

Supported Collective Tasks :

Task Number	Title	Proponent	Status
07-2-1261	Conduct an Attack in an Urban Area (Platoon-Company)	07 - Infantry (Collective)	Superseded

ICTL Data :

ICTL Title	Personnel Type	MOS Data
11A Officer Lieutenant, Version 1.00	Officer	AOC: 11A, Rank: 1LT
11B10, Infantryman - Version 1.00	Enlisted	MOS: 11B, Skill Level: SL1